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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/689,537	10/21/2003	Minoru Taneda	031235	9326

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EXAMINER

DOAN, KIET M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2683

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/689,537

Applicant(s)

TANEDA ET AL.

Examiner

Kiet Doan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/21/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

1. **Claims 1-3** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayyashi (Pub. No. 2002/0173281).

Consider **claim 1**, Kobayyashi teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type comprising a pair of flat cabinets openably connected to each other by a hinge mechanism (Page 2, Paragraph [0016], Fig.1, Illustrate No.13 as hinge mechanism wherein connected a pair of flat cabinets which read on first housing No.11 and second housing No.12), each of the cabinets comprising a front cabinet segment to be opposed to the other cabinet when closed (Fig.2a, Illustrate cabinet segment to be opposed to the other cabinet when closed) and a rear cabinet segment joined to the front cabinet segment (Fig.1, No.51 which read on front cabinet which joined rear cabinet), one of the pair of cabinets having the front cabinet segment thereof connected at an end portion thereof to the hinge mechanism and having the rear cabinet segment thereof engaged with the front cabinet segment thereof (Fig.8, Illustrate No.12 as one of the pair of cabinet and No.12a as hinge mechanism connected at end portion) the other cabinet having the rear cabinet segment thereof connected at an end portion thereof to the

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hinge mechanism and having the front cabinet segment thereof engaged with the rear cabinet segment thereof (Fig.8, Illustrate No.11 as the other cabinet and No.11a as hinge mechanism connected at an end portion the).

Consider **claim 2**, Kobayyashi teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 1 wherein one of the pair of flat cabinets is a manipulation-side cabinet provided with a plurality of manual keys (Fig.1, No.51, Illustrate as cabinet provided with a plurality of manual keys), and the other cabinet is a display-side cabinet provided with a display (Fig.1; No.61 Illustrate as the other cabinet is a display-side), the front cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet and the rear cabinet segment of the display-side cabinet being connected to each other by the hinge mechanism (Fig.8, No.12a Illustrate as hinge mechanism wherein connected front/rear cabinet segment No.12).

Consider **claim 3**, Kobayyashi teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 1 wherein the front cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet is provided with a pair of annular pieces projecting from one end thereof and spaced apart from each other, and the rear cabinet segment of the display-side cabinet is provided with a pair of annular pieces projecting from one end thereof and spaced apart from each other, the annular piece of the manipulation-side cabinet and the annular piece of the display-side cabinet being arranged side by side in contact with each other and have fitted therein a first hinge unit, the other annular piece of the

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manipulation-side cabinet and the other annular piece of the display-side cabinet being arranged side by side in contact with each other and have fitted therein a second hinge unit. (Fig.1, No.12a-12b illustrate as pair of annular pieces wherein spaced apart from each other and contact with each other and have fitted therein a first/second hinge unit as No.13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 4-5** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayyashi (Pub. No. 2002/0173281) in view of Kubo et al. (Patent No. 6,633,749).

Consider **claim 4**, Kobayyashi teaches the limitation of claim as discuss above **but fail to teach** a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 3 wherein the front cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet has a circular-arc piece projecting from the end thereof and positioned between the pair of annular pieces, and the rear cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet is provided at one end thereof with a partial member joined to the circular-arc piece for forming a hollow cylinder.

In an analogous art, Kubo teaches "Folding Mobile Wireless Device". Further, Kubo teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 3

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wherein the front cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet has a circular-arc piece projecting from the end thereof and positioned between the pair of annular pieces, and the rear cabinet segment of the manipulation-side cabinet is provided at one end thereof with a partial member joined to the circular-arc piece for forming a hollow cylinder (C5, L2-35, Fig.3a, Illustrate as cabinet has a circular-arc which forming a hollow cylinder, No.30a as pair of annular pieces).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made that person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Kobayyashi and Kubo system, such that cabinet segment has a circular-arc and forming a hollow cylinder, to provide means for flexibility connection of two housing/ cabinet segment).

Consider **claim 5**, Kubo teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 3 wherein the front cabinet segment of the display-side cabinet is provided with a projecting circular-arc piece positioned between the pair of annular pieces, and the rear cabinet segment of the display-side cabinet is provided at the end thereof with a partial member joined to the circular-arc piece for forming a hollow cylinder (C5, L2-35, Fig.31, Illustrate as cabinet of the display-side has a circular-arc, No.31a/b as pair of annular pieces).

3. **Claims 6-7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayyashi (Pub. No. 2002/0173281) in view of Kubo et al. (Patent No. 6,633,749) and further view of Frohlund et al. (Patent No. 6,421,547).

Consider **claims 6 and 7**, Kobayashi and Kubo teach the limitation of claims as discuss **above but fail to teach** a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 4 wherein a circuit board in the manipulation-side cabinet and a display in the display-side cabinet are connected to each other by a flexible lead, and the flexible lead is helically wound inside the hollow cylinders formed by the circular-arc pieces and the partial members.

In an analogous art, Frohlund teaches "Arrangement at a mobile telephone". Further, Frohlund teaches a portable terminal device of the foldable type according to claim 4 wherein a circuit board in the manipulation-side cabinet and a display in the display-side cabinet are connected to each other by a flexible lead (C3, L6-67, Fig.2, No.10 Illustrate as flexible lead), and the flexible lead is helically wound inside the hollow cylinders formed by the circular-arc pieces and the partial members (Fig.4, No.17 Illustrate the flexible lead is helically inside the hollow cylinders formed by the circular-arc).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made that person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Kobayashi, Kubo and Frohland system, such that cabinet are connected to each other by a flexible lead and helically inside the hollow cylinders formed by the circular-arc, to provide means for easy/flexibility, open/close and maintenance.

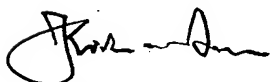
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kiet Doan whose telephone number is 571-272-7863.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on 571-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kiet Doan
Patent Examiner



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